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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/598,793	09/12/2006	Christof Faria	INA-PT185 (4366-18-US)	1475
3624	7590	12/19/2007	EXAMINER	
VOLPE AND KOENIG, P.C.			ESHETE, ZELALEM	
UNITED PLAZA, SUITE 1600				
30 SOUTH 17TH STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			3748	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/598,793

Applicant(s)

FARIA ET AL.

Examiner

Zelalem Eshete

Art Unit

3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/12/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the preliminary amendment filed on 9/12/2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamazaki (WO 03/064821).

Regarding claim 1: Yamazaki discloses lever for a valve control of a piston engine (see figure 1), comprising a rocker arm, rocker lever or finger lever, with a roller, which is arranged in a roller pocket formed by a left side part and a right side part of the lever and which is rotatably mounted on a support pin arranged in the lever (see figures 1,2; numerals 2,4), a width of the roller pocket is smaller than a sum of total thicknesses of the left side part and the right side part of the lever (see figure 2), wherein the left side part and the right side part are tapered sufficiently via tapered sections in a region of a bore hole for holding the support pin (see numeral 21), and a sum of a width of the

left side part supporting the support pin and a width of the right side part supporting the support pin is smaller than the width of the roller pocket (see figure 7).

Regarding claims 2,3: Yamazaki discloses at least one of the tapered sections in the side parts of the lever (see numeral 21). As to the method of shaping/material removal processes, a product by process claim is rejected over a prior art product that appears to be identical, although produced by a different process, the burden is upon the applicants to come forward with evidence establishing an unobvious difference between the two. See *In re Marosi*, 218 USPQ 289 (Fed. Cir. 1983)

Regarding claim 4: Yamazaki discloses the tapered sections in the left side part and in the right side part are each arranged on an outside or inside thereof (see figure 2).

Regarding claim 5: Yamazaki discloses the support pin has a locking part in a region of at least one of the outer tapered section for at least one of rotational or positional locking (see figure 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki in view of Okubo et al. (6,959,676).

Yamazaki discloses the claimed invention as recited above and further discloses one of the side parts has an outer tapered section (see numeral 21); however, fails to disclose the tapered section on the other side faces towards the roller pocket.

However, Okubo teaches tapered section on the other side faces towards the roller pocket (see figure 14, numeral 320). Okubo further teaches that such arrangement provides recesses to receive lubricating oil (see column 22, lines 40 to 50).

It would have been obvious to one having an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Yamazaki by providing tapered sections as taught by Okubo in order to provide recesses to receive lubricating oil as taught by Okubo.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zelalem Eshete whose telephone number is (571) 272-4860. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Denion can be reached on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Zelalem Eshete
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3748

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zelalem Eshete', is written over the printed name and title.